



DRAFT MINUTES

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

1. Roll Call

Chair Wiener called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Present at Roll Call: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Kim, Peskin, Wiener and Yee (8)

Absent at Roll Call: Commissioners Farrell (entered during Item 3), Mar (entered during Item 8) and Tang (3).

2. Chair's Report – INFORMATION

Chair Wiener reported that earlier in the month he joined with Mayor Lee and staff from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and Transportation Authority to welcome U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Anthony Foxx to San Francisco. He said San Francisco was one of seven cities being considered for a \$50 million challenge grant offered by the U.S. DOT and Vulcan Foundation and that the DOT delegation was in town to hear the city's proposal on how it would combine research, community engagement and technology partnerships to demonstrate new ways to manage transportation. He said Secretary Foxx acknowledged the innovation that was occurring in cities and the necessity of local jurisdictions to take initiative, particularly regarding funding, given the political realities of Washington D.C. and most state capitals across the nation.

Chair Wiener said that along with Commissioner Avalos, he was grateful for the unanimous support at the Board of Supervisors meeting earlier in the month calling for the development of a transportation sales tax expenditure plan and funding measure for the November ballot. He said the need for a second half-cent sales tax was discussed in the city's 2013 Countywide Transportation Plan as well as in the Mayor's Transportation 2030 program formulated in 2014, which called for a three-part local revenue strategy comprised of a transportation bond, half-cent sales tax, and vehicle license fee. He said the first segment of the strategy, the transportation bond known as Prop A, passed in 2014 and focused on transit state of good repair and safer streets, though this was only a down payment on a much larger funding need. He said now the city had the opportunity to fund these items with the second segment of the strategy, which was the transportation sales tax. He said by extending the time horizon from 15 to 25 years as anticipated in the Countywide Transportation Plan and Plan Bay Area, the city could address several additional priorities such as Vision Zero, Muni's equity strategy, Muni vehicles and facilities, as well as regional investments such as Caltrain Electrification, BART's vehicle needs, and the U.S.-101 corridor managed lanes for buses and carpools.

Regarding regional investments, Chair Wiener said that he was aware that Contra Costa County had decided to move ahead with a revenue measure for the November ballot, and that Santa Clara County also was on track to make that decision in June. He noted that Alameda County had passed its half-cent sales tax in 2014, so it was critical for the city to maintain its ability to contribute its fair share of funds for the joint regional priorities. He said the city also needed to maintain its ability to provide local match for state, regional and federal funding opportunities. Lastly, he said he looked forward to the discussion of next steps in this effort, which involved coordination with the Board and the Mayor's Office regarding the appropriate structure of a potential measure for the November ballot.

There was no public comment.

3. Executive Director's Report – INFORMATION

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, presented the Executive Director's Report.

There was no public comment.

4. Approve the Minutes of the April 26, 2016 Meeting – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Peskin, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Mar and Tang (2)

Items from the Finance Committee

5. Adopt Positions on State Legislation – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Peskin, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Mar and Tang (2)

Items from the Plans and Programs Committee

6. Appoint Asher Butnik and Alexander Post to the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit Citizens Advisory Committee – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The item approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Peskin, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioner Mar and Tang (2)

7. Allocate \$9,599,451 in Prop K Funds, with Conditions, for Three Requests, Subject to the Attached Fiscal Year Cash Flow Distribution Schedules – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Peskin, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Mar and Tang (2)

Items for Direct Board Consideration

8. Development of a Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan – INFORMATION

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, introduced the item and Maria Lombardo, Chief Deputy Director, who presented the item per the staff presentation.

During public comment, Peter Straus with the San Francisco Transit Riders and Transportation Justice Coalition said he strongly supported the development of the transportation expenditure plan as there were many unmet needs identified in the T2030 process. He said he also supported having the Transportation Authority as the allocation agency for the expenditure plan because of the continuity and expertise that the Transportation Authority offered, but noted that the decision was not yet finalized. Mr. Straus said that he would support an element of the sales tax to address unmet service needs, in particular needs identified in the Muni equity strategy such as evening and night service, as well as providing additional Muni Metro capacity and service. He added that the current funding structures did not have the ability to address all of the city's unmet needs. He said he also supported the inclusion of complete streets for Vision Zero, as well as the consideration of partial funding for affordability programs such as free Muni for youth and seniors, because of the somewhat regressive nature of the sales tax.

Janice Lee with the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition commented that San Francisco was becoming more expensive by the day and lacked affordable and safe transportation options which placed a continually growing burden on low-income working communities. She said the Board of Supervisors took an important first step to address this issue by developing a transportation expenditure plan and draft principles, and said that while it addressed known capital needs, it also needed to address new issues identified in planning efforts such as Vision Zero, the Muni equity strategy, and free Muni for youth, seniors and people with disabilities. Ms. Lee added that the city needed to continue to pursue every revenue option beyond the general obligation bond in 2014. She said the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition recognized that there were other costs not reflected in the numbers shown in the presentation, such as the lives affected by someone seriously injured or killed on the city's streets. She said she was glad that Vision Zero was reflected in both the resolution and expenditure plan principles, but that the final expenditure plan should do everything possible to build out safer and complete streets for the city's most vulnerable users which were those biking and walking.

Jackie Sachs with the Citizens Advisory Committee said that she had worked on two sales tax packages previously and that before the Board considered a new sales tax, it should consider that Prop K would have to be reauthorized by voters within a few years. She said that one project that was included in Prop K, the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit project, was supposed to be rail ready but that there were no funds included in the five-year prioritization programs, and said that project should be considered before another sales tax package was approved.

Other Items

9. Introduction of New Items – INFORMATION

There was no public comment.

10. Public Comment

During public comment, Andrew Yip spoke regarding equality and justice.

Jackie Sachs commented that at the February 2016 Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting there was a presentation regarding “The Other 9 to 5” study of transportation options for people who worked late at night and relied on public transit. She said she had been involved with the study’s working group since October 2015 and that before the Board took action on the study’s final report, it should be considered by the CAC for input, especially since there was a new member on the CAC. Ms. Sachs added that the Geary Corridor Light Rail Transit project was a priority three project in Prop K and that there were no funds included in the five-year prioritization programs for this project.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.